

Hg

Hg

11-10-05

Hg

Update on Fish Tissue Analysis for Mercury

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Utah State-wide Mercury Work Group

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John Whitehead

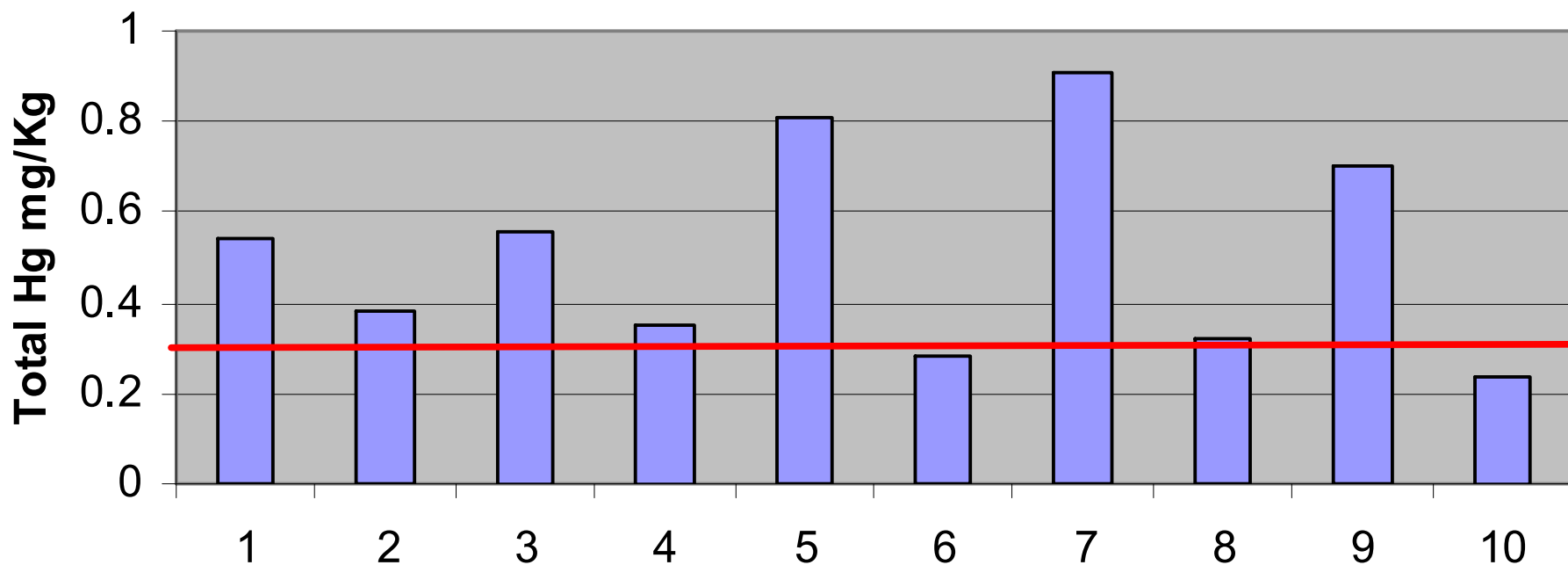
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Green River – Desolation Cyn.

Green River - Desolation Cyn Channel Catfish - Mercury 2005



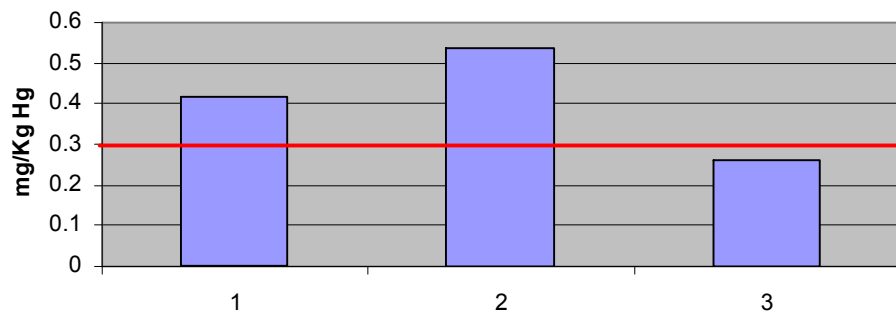
Fish Advisory for Green River in Desolation Canyon

- Channel Catfish
- Press Release 11-10-05
- Not a fishing hotspot in Utah
- Signs Posted at access points
- Pamphlets
- Coordination with BLM; raft launch area

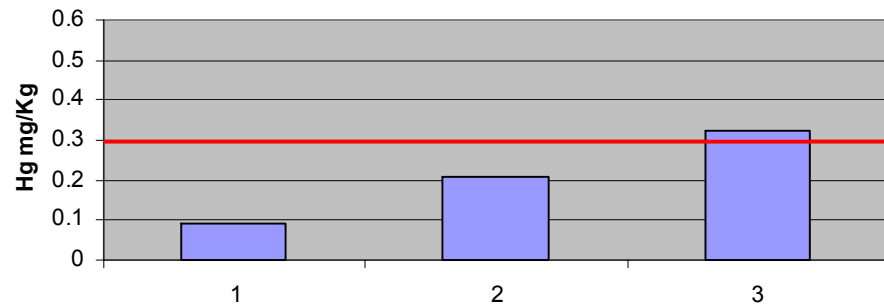
Backlogged Data Status

- EPA delivered raw data results 11-7-05
- 125 results from 2003 and 2004
- Four new sites with Hg values above screening value
 - Pleasant Creek (Capital Reef)
 - Calf Creek (near Escalante)
 - Deer Creek (near Escalante)
 - E. Fork of Whiterocks River (Uintah Basin)

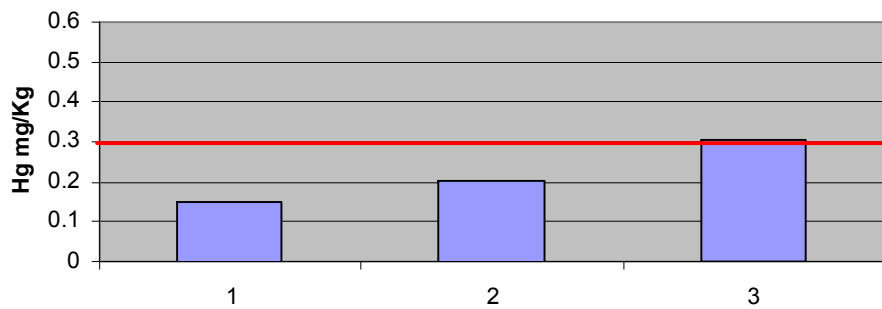
Calf Creek 2003 Hg



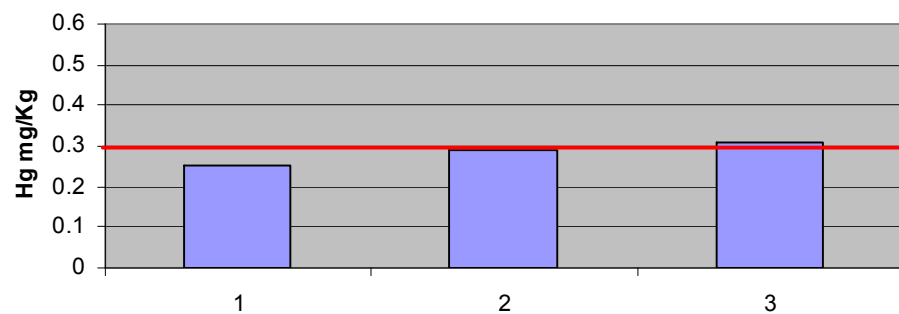
East Fork Whiterocks River 2004 Hg



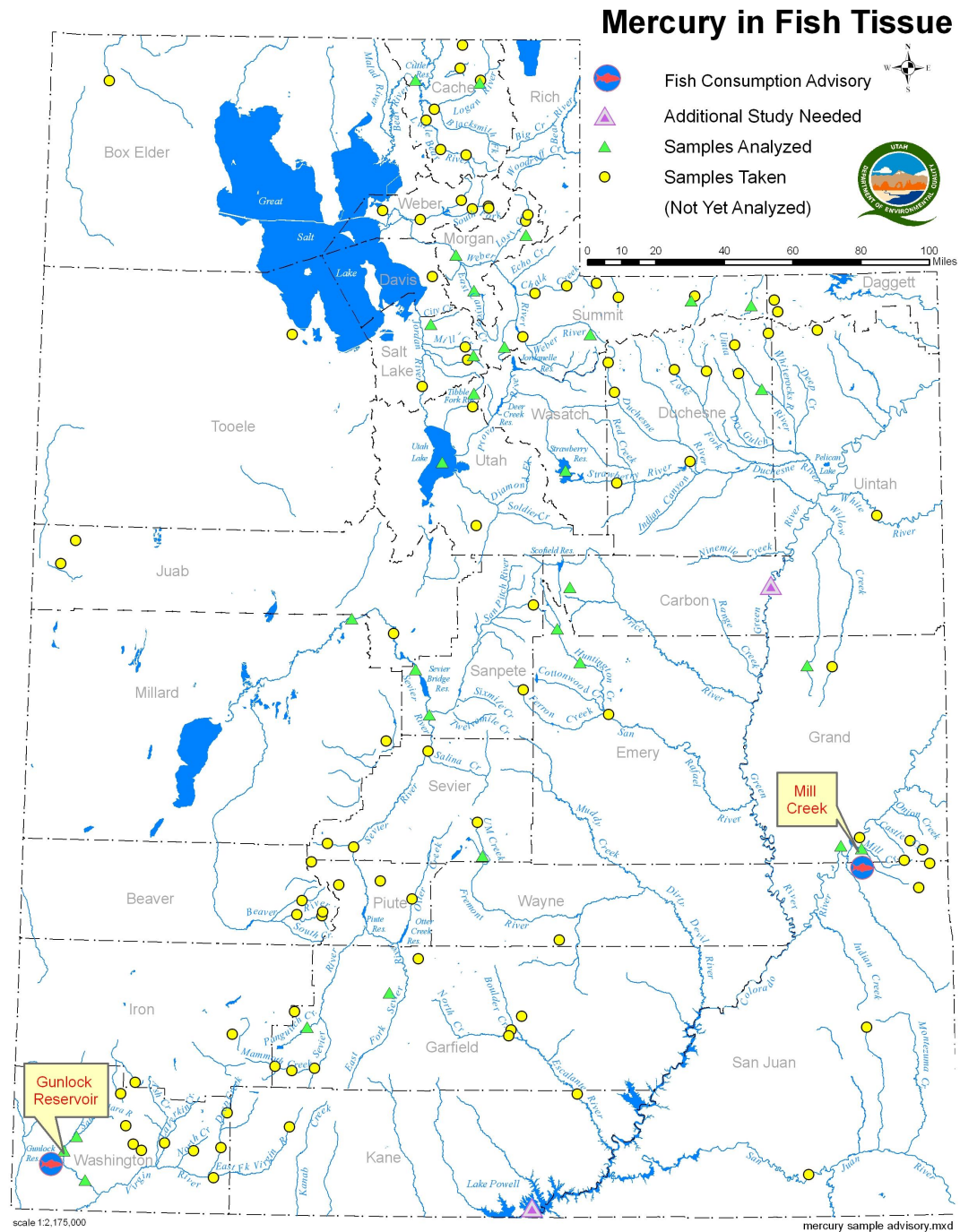
Deer Creek 2003 Hg



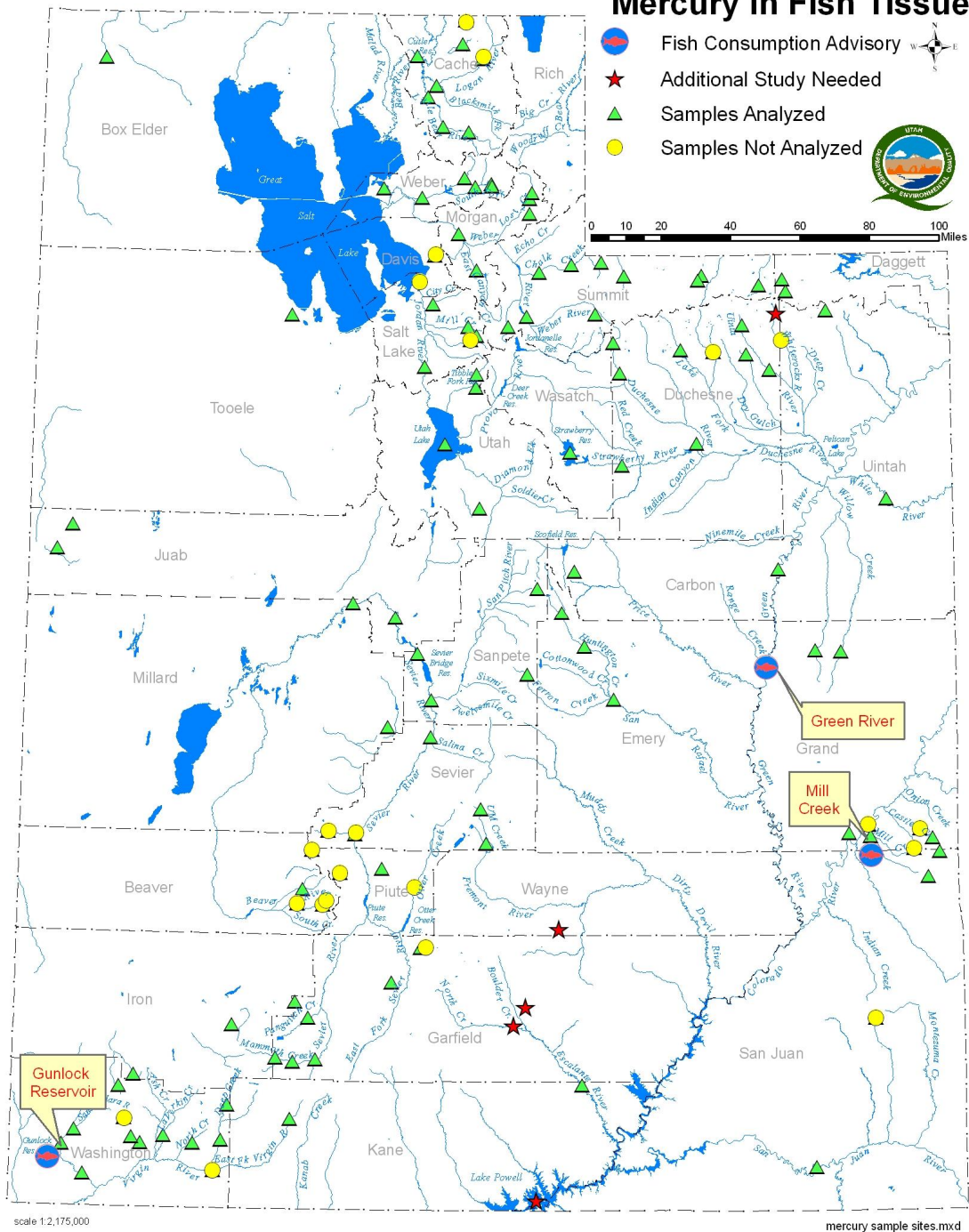
Pleasant Creek 2004 Hg



Old Mercury Map Sept. 2005



Mercury in Fish Tissue



Additional Fish Samples to be analyzed at Utah State Lab

- Wildlife Resources (routine fall sampling)
- DWQ (biological monitoring)
- 22 Sites 2004
- 66 Sites 2005

Mercury Analyzer

- DWQ - \$50,000 Hg Analyzer
 - for State Lab
- Analyzer in process of running QA/QC runs
- Plan to begin analysis of fish last week of November
- Should complete analysis of current backlog in 10 to 12 weeks

2005 Fish Consumption Advisories Issued

- Gunlock Reservoir
 - Largemouth Bass
- Mill Creek near Moab
 - Brown Trout
- Green River – Desolation Canyon
 - Channel Catfish

Future Action Items (Fish Tissue)

- Develop Sampling Strategy for Lake Powell
- Follow up confirmation sampling on four sites with elevated Hg values
- Complete Hg analysis on remaining 2004 fish (22 sites)
- Complete Hg analysis on 2005 fish
- Develop Statewide 2006 sampling program

Lake Powell

- **Working Group Conference call late November**
 - Arizona DEQ and Wildlife Agencies
 - Navajo Nation
 - National Park Service
 - EPA Region 8 and 9
 - Utah DWQ and Wildlife Resources
- **Develop Sampling Program for 2006**